



St Boniface's Catholic College

21 Boniface Lane, Manadon Park, Plymouth, Devon PL5 3AG

T: 01752 779051
F: 01752 774692
mailbox@stbonifaces.com
www.stbonifaces.com

Headteacher: Mr Peter Eccles BA (Hons) MA NPQH

Friday, 09 December 2011

Dear Parents,

I would like to share some updates before the end of the Advent term.

Site Developments

We have had some excellent news in that extension work to the Technology Block will begin soon. This has exciting implications for the College as we will be able to offer catering as part of the curriculum diet for pupils next year in Key Stage 3. Teachers and pupils have been eagerly awaiting the long-anticipated development of the Technology Block and the arrival of catering opportunities on the curriculum. It is particularly exciting to hear the plans forming to offer catering as an enrichment activity on the extra-curricular programme for next year.

Building work will begin early in the Spring term. This will involve relocation of pedestrian access to the College. Parents will be unable to use the Church car park for dropping off pupils. Vehicular access will be revised but signage should help clarify how we will manage in the interim. At every stage the College will endeavour to provide advanced warning of disruption but, overall, the project will impact on the period January to August 2012.

The College will ensure that the usual standards of safety will be maintained. Contractors will hold CRBs as required. The College will secure the site to ensure building work and educational commitments are conducted safely and with minimal disruption.

Staff Leaving

I am sorry to say Miss Burke (RE department) and Mrs Wright (Cleaner) are leaving us at Christmas. We thank these staff for the contribution and wish them well in the future.

End of Term

The College will close next Friday 16th December. We would like to continue the tradition of allowing staff and students a special treat of beginning their celebrations early on the last day. Staff will register students at the beginning of period 5 (12.35) and dismiss them at 12.45. The new term will begin 4th January 2012 at the normal time. Pupils are to go to lesson 1 as normal. For pupils in Years 9 and 10 there will be a Mass in St Peter's at 12.35 with an 'Epiphany theme'. You are welcome to come to this Mass if you are able.

College Finances & The Evening Herald

You may read an account in the press relating to the financial position of the College. The College is facing some financial challenges and we are looking at different ways to work through these with the support of Plymouth City Council.

The circumstances which led to these pressures are being investigated by the appropriate authorities. Whilst these investigations are on-going, I cannot comment on the particulars but I would like to keep you as briefed as possible, if only to offer you some reassurance at a time when rumours may be circulating.

We recently held staff meetings to talk about the College's financial situation. We discussed possible measures to help relieve budget pressures, one of which was voluntary redundancies.



A Specialist Science and Mathematics College

THE COLLEGE MISSION STATEMENT AND COMMITMENT TO SAFEGUARDING

"St Boniface's College is a Roman Catholic Christian Community. It is committed to striving for excellence in all its members through the delivery of a broad and balanced curriculum involving spiritual, moral, cultural, academic, social and physical education, delivered to the whole young person. All teaching and learning is done within the context of the teaching of the Catholic faith."

The College has a commitment to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.



Whilst it's fair to say that morale has been affected by recent events at the College, we have been buoyed in the last few weeks by a very good Ofsted inspection result, which we've all worked extremely hard to achieve.

Please rest assured we are doing everything we can to resolve any financial issues and I will keep you informed as best I can of our progress in the New Year.

Christmas Concert & Pantomime

Don't forget this year's Christmas Concert and Pantomime to "kick-off your Christmas" (quote Mr Trimmer). Last year's show set a challenging benchmark but I've been assured that this one will be as good or better. (Watch out for the 80s music!) Tickets for 7pm Wednesday 14th December and Thursday 15th December are still available from the main office at reception.

2011 and 2012!

It has been a very productive and rewarding year especially as hard work and continuing improvements have been acknowledged by Ofsted. As always, I would like to wish you and your families a happy Christmas and New Year 2012. Inevitably the next few days will be very busy so I hope you will have some time to consider the thoughts contained in the message below:

Lord Jesus, we are looking forward to your coming again into our lives.
You are King of kings and Lord of creation.
Please make us into the people
you want us to be,
so that when you come,
you will find us ready for you. Amen.

Peter Eccles

Peter Eccles, 16th December 2011



A Specialist Science and Mathematics College

THE COLLEGE MISSION STATEMENT AND COMMITMENT TO SAFEGUARDING

"St Boniface's College is a Roman Catholic Christian Community. It is committed to striving for excellence in all its members through the delivery of a broad and balanced curriculum involving spiritual, moral, cultural, academic, social and physical education, delivered to the whole young person. All teaching and learning is done within the context of the teaching of the Catholic faith."

The College has a commitment to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.